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 Cc:
 Subject: IMA Mail on Give us a break: Oppose the Comcast merger!

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MAY - 8 2014

 Federal Communications Commission
 Office of the Secretary

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Give us a break: Oppose the Comcast merger!

On Wednesday the Senate holds the first of what I hope are many public hearings on Comcast's plan to take over Time Warner Cable. I ask that you speak out publicly both in Washington, D.C., and here at home against this massive mega-merger, and stand up for constituents like me who are tired of skyrocketing cable rates, slow and selective broadband speeds, and lousy customer service.

Our country needs more competition in the cable and Internet marketplace, not less. But if this merger is allowed to happen, we will have a massive company dominating the market -- one that has consistently ranked at the bottom when it comes to consumer satisfaction.

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A merged Comcast would control two-thirds of the country's cable TV customers, be in 19 of the 20 largest cities, and control 40 percent of the broadband market.

And this giant would only mean more problems for consumers fed up with lousy service and high prices. Consumer Reports' survey released last month had Comcast ranked 15th among 17 television service providers. And Time Warner ranked 16th overall for television service with particularly low ratings for value, reliability, and phone / online customer support. Just imagine the two combined!

Please stand with constituents and speak out against this merger. Demand real competition in the cable TV and Internet marketplace, so we can get lower prices, better service and more innovation.

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